

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 20 January, 2009

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Upgrading of Yangon discussed



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence delivers an address at meeting of leading committee for making Yangon beautiful and pleasant.—MNA

YANGON, 19 Jan—The meeting of Leading committee for making Yangon beautiful and pleasant was held at the meeting hall of Yangon City Development Committee this afternoon, with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development

Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint reported on measures taken for ensuring smooth transport and health care.

Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa presented reports on undertakings of the respective committees and

assistance provided to them. Next, chairpersons and personnel of committees reported on works undertaken.

Concerning reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave necessary instructions to officials concerned and the ceremony came to an end.—MNA

Boost livestock farming for nation's economic growth

Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)



Sea prawn ponds in Kawthoung Township.

(See page 7)

Robot inspects wind energy converters



A robot inspects a wind energy converter's rotor blades for possible damage.

BERLIN, 19 Jan — The material of wind energy converters must withstand intense forces. Are rotor blades damaged? A new robot inspects wind energy converters more precisely than a human ever could. It detects the minutest damage – even below the surface.

It appears reliably and appears alone. Nimble and quickly, it pulls itself up a rope meter for meter until it reaches a wind energy converter's giant rotor blades. Then it goes to work. It thoroughly inspects every centimeter of the rotor blades' surface. Nothing escapes it. It registers any crack and any delamination in the material and relays their exact positions. In this job, a robot is superior to humans.

Internet

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 20 January, 2009

Strive for further strengthening Union Spirit and consolidating of national unity

The government has laid down and is implementing the 24 special development zone project, the border area development project and the five rural development project to bring about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation for improvement of the socio-economic status of the people and for human resources development.

Smooth and secure transport plays a pivotal role in the process of bringing about national development.

The government has been implementing projects for development of border areas and national races that lagged behind in development owing to the evil legacy of colonialists. In this regard, it has built a network of roads and bridges for ensuring better transport and forging national unity.

Nantsalein creek bridge, which is situated between Khamti Township and Lahe Township in Khamti District, Sagaing Division was commissioned into service on 16 January. The bridge plays an important role in the development of the region.

In the past, Lahe Township was of difficult access due to poor transport. At present, with the emergence of the bridge, local people of the region can travel from one place to another, thereby getting them to be oneness with those from other regions.

Making better use of the facility, local people will be able to transport goods from their region to other regions and to fully engage in the development of agriculture and livestock breeding sectors.

The government spent a large amount of funds on regional development with the aim of further strengthening Union Spirit and consolidating of national unity. With this end in view, the onus is on the entire people to strive together with the government for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

NPE's English Proficiency Course 1/2008 concludes

YANGON, 19 Jan—A ceremony to conclude English Proficiency Course No. 1/2008, which was conducted by the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information, was held at the meeting hall of the New Light of Myanmar Daily on Strand Road in Botahtaung township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, advisers to the ministry, chief editors, departmental officials, instructors and trainees.

On behalf of the Minister for Information, Managing Director U Soe Win made a concluding speech on the occasion and presented prizes to outstanding trainees. Next, gifts were presented to course instructors who had conducted in the course.

A total of 21 trainees attended the 12-week course.—MNA

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Industry-2 Minister inspects factories in Malun and Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Jan—Minister for Industry- 2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein went to No.2 Farming Equipment Factory (Malun) on 17 January in which he met with staff and called for increased sales of power tillers and road-rollers during the present financial year, production of spare parts for other departments to meet customers' satisfaction and better cooperative measures among the factories of the ministry.

On arrival at Heavy turbo truck assembly & component parts



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein inspects Heavy Turbo Truck Assembly & Component Parts Plant Project (Magway).—MNA

production plant project (Magway) on 18 January, the minister looked into foundation works for

construction of 250 metre long and 90 metre wide factory building and gave instructions on

standardized procedures for implementation of the project.

MNA

Forestry Minister looks into wood-based factory

YANGON, 19 Jan—Minister for Forestry Brig-

Gen Thein Aung looked into National Pride wood-

based factory in Industrial Zone-3 of Hlaingthaya

Industrial Zone here on 18 Jan and heard reports on works in progress.

The minister attended to the needs and inspected production of floor, parquet and value added sawm timber.

MNA



Brig-Gen Thein Aung looks into National Pride wood-based factory in Zone-3 of Hlaingthaya Industrial Zone.

MNA



Managing Director of NPE U Soe Win presents prizes to Junior Reporter U Sithu Hein who stood second and Proof Reader U Tin Lin Aung who stood third, both from the NLM, at the concluding ceremony of English Proficiency Course No. (1/2008).—MNA



Children walk on the debris of a damaged school building after it was blown up by the Taliban in Swat Valley on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Suicide attack near US base kills one Afghan

KABUL, 19 Jan — A suicide car bomb attack near the gates of a US base in eastern Afghanistan killed one Afghan on Monday and wounded several more, officials said.

The attack targeted Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost City, near the border with Pakistan, said Lt Cmdr. James Gater, a spokesman for the NATO-led mission in Afghanistan.

An Afghan health official, Dr Gul Mohammad Mohammedi, said one Afghan was killed and four were wounded in the attack.

Late last month a bomb-laden truck exploded outside another US military post in Khost province, killing 14 Afghan school children.

Violence has been rising across Afghanistan the last two years. President-elect Barack Obama has

promised to increase America's focus on the deteriorating situation in the country while decreasing troop levels in Iraq.

The US has said it will send up to 30,000 new troops into Afghanistan in 2009, including some 3,000 forces in two provinces adjacent to Kabul, where militants now have free rein. The US now has some 32,000 troops in Afghanistan.

Internet

Police officer killed, 12 wounded in Baghdad bombings

BAGHDAD, 19 Jan — Two bomb attacks in Baghdad on Monday killed a police officer and wounded 12 people, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb explosion near an Iraqi Army checkpoint in the Zaafaraniya district in southeast Baghdad, killing an off-duty police captain, who was passing by, and wounding seven people, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. A soldier was among the wounded people, the source said.

In separate incident, a twin roadside bomb explosions struck a police patrol in an intersection in the Shiite neighborhood of Amel in southern Baghdad, wounding two policemen and damaging a police vehicle, the source added. Three civilians were also wounded by the blasts, he said.

Despite the security gains in recent months in Iraq, there are still sporadic bombings, which shape setback to the Iraqi government. —Internet



A policeman stands guard near residents looking at a burnt vehicle at the site of a bomb attack in Baghdad on 19 Jan, 2009. The roadside bomb killed an off-duty police officer and wounded seven people in Zaafaraniya district of southeast of Baghdad on Monday, police said.—INTERNET

Suicide bomber kills deputy head of Iraq Sunni party

MOSUL, 19 Jan — A suicide bomber on Sunday killed a deputy leader of an influential Iraqi Sunni Arab political party as he and other politicians met to discuss an upcoming provincial election, the party's leader said.

Hassan Zaidan al-Lihebi, deputy leader of the Iraqi National Dialogue Front, was killed by a suicide bomber who stormed his house, shot at guards and blew himself up in a crowded reception room, Saleh al-Mutlaq, the party's leader, told *Reuters*. —Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,228

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan — As of Sunday, 18 Jan, 2009, at least 4,228 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,404 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The British military has reported 178 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet

Pakistan temporarily halts US-NATO supplies

PESHAWAR, 19 Jan — Pakistan temporarily closed the major land supply route to US and NATO forces in Afghanistan on Monday after suspected insurgents killed a soldier and wounded 14, adding urgency to efforts to secure alternative supply lines as more US troops head to the region.

Growing militant activity along the legendary Khyber Pass has prompted several temporary closures in recent months, and it was not immediately clear how long the latest suspension would last.

Afghan-based US and NATO forces get up to 75 percent of their supplies via routes that traverse Pakistan, with Khyber being the main conduit into Afghanistan. The trucks that carry the fuel, food and other goods face constant threats of violence. Militants have also ransacked truck-holding terminals in the nearby city of Peshawar.

The Khyber region is part of Pakistan's semiautonomous tribal belt, where al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters hold tremendous sway. The Pakistani government has dispatched paramilitary escorts for the supply convoys and recently launched a crackdown on militants in Khyber, but militant activity has continued.

In the latest attack, suspected militants fired eight rockets at a Pakistani military camp in the Landikotal area early Monday, said Fazal Mahmood, a senior government official in Khyber. One soldier died, while 14 were wounded, he said.—Internet

A Palestinian carries a sack of flour received from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) headquarters in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip on 19 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET



Obama to focus on financial crisis, military withdrawal

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan—US President-elect Barack Obama will immediately deal with military withdrawal from Iraq and the domestic financial crisis after his swearing-in, incoming White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said on Sunday.

“First he’s going to meet with his economic team to see where we are

on an economic recovery and re-investment plan ... so that the American people can feel confident that things are moving in the right direction,” Gibbs told “Fox News Sunday”.

“And he’ll also meet with military advisers to talk about the conflicts in both Iraq and Afghanistan,” the spokesman said. “The goal of the meeting

certainly as it relates to Iraq is to keep our commitment to remove responsibly and safely our troops, our combat brigades over the course of the next 16 months.”

Obama has vowed time and again that he will withdraw US combat forces from Iraq in the first 16 months after he takes office. — MNA/Xinhua



Israeli soldiers hold an Israeli flag after returning from the Gaza Strip, on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Israeli Army withdraws from southern Gaza

GAZA, 19 Jan—The Israeli Army ground forces which seized positions into the former evacuated Jewish settlement of Nitzarim in southern Gaza City on 4 January, withdrew on Sunday evening, witnesses said.

The witnesses said that dozens of Israeli Army tanks and vehicles withdrew from these positions as well as the position it seized on the main highway of Salah el-Dein that links Gaza City with central and southern Gaza Strip.

Nine days after intensive Israeli airstrikes on hundreds of Islamic Hamas movement’s targets in the Gaza Strip, Israel carried out a deep ground incursion into south, east and north Gaza city as well as into the northern Gaza Strip areas.

On Saturday night, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert declared an end of the Israeli military air and ground offensive. However, he said his troops would keep seizing positions until homemade rockets attacks on Israel stop.

MNA/Xinhua

Argentine President visits Cuba to boost bilateral ties

HAVANA, 19 Jan—Argentine President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner arrived in Cuba Sunday on a visit to enhance bilateral ties and cooperation between the two nations, local media reported.

Kirchner made the trip at the invitation of his Cuban counterpart, Raul Castro. This is the first official visit to Cuba by a Argentine president in 23 years, which seeks to revitalize bilateral ties.

Kirchner will have talks with Castro and other Cuban leaders and visit places of historical, economical and social interests, local newspaper Granma reported.

Fernandez has delayed her visit to Cuba for a week due to a sudden health problem which kept her away from domestic political affairs.

MNA/Xinhua



Tran Tuyen makes calligraphy outside of Van Mieu, the Temple of Literature, in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 19 Jan, 2009. Artworks of calligraphy are sold for Tet, the Vietnamese Luna New Year, which will begin on Monday, 26 Jan.—INTERNET

Hijacked Ukrainian tank ship’s crew unwell

MOGADISHU, 19 Jan—Some crew members of a Ukrainian ship hijacked off Somalia with 33 tanks on board have fallen sick, a local businessman said.

The *MV Faina*, the highest-profile of a dozen ships being held off Somalia, was captured in September with its 20-man crew and a cargo of Soviet-era T-72 tanks plus other weapons.

The pirates want 5 million US dollars to

release the boat, and its crew of mainly Russians and Ukrainians. One sick crew member died in the early days of the hijacking.

“Seven of the *MV Faina’s* crew have become sick and we are planning to take Somali doctors to treat these crew on the ship,” businessman Osman Farah, who has dealings with the pirates, told *Reuters* on Saturday.

“Rashes have appeared on their bodies, and they

are suffering diarrhoea. Some have high blood pressure. We do not exactly know the disease, but we think the chemicals of the weapons on the ship have affected them,” he said.—MNA/Reuters

Gunmen attack ships at Nigeria oil loading platform

LAGOS, 19 Jan—Gunmen opened fire on at least two oil vessels at Nigeria’s Bonny crude oil loading platform late on Saturday, the site’s joint owner Royal Dutch Shell and industry security sources said on Sunday.

One of the sources said gunmen initially opened fire on an oil tanker at the facility but were unable to board the vessel. They

then attacked a tugboat and two service boats, one of which was later found drifting with its crew apparently abducted. “They went on the rampage at other vessels in the area,” the security source said.

“We can confirm there was an attack on two vessels, a tanker and a support vessel, at SPDC’s crude loading platform at Bonny, Rivers

state, last night,” said a spokes-woman for Shell, which operates the Bonny platform in a joint venture with the state-run Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC). “The vessels were not owned by Shell.”

A second industry security source said a crew member on the tugboat was believed to have been killed in the attack. A military spokesman could not immediately provide any details. Violence in the Niger Delta, home to Africa’s biggest oil and gas industry, has cut Nigeria’s oil output by around a fifth over the past three years.

MNA/Reuters



File photo of the Anderson bridge against the business district buildings in Singapore. Singapore’s sovereign wealth funds, which have helped bail out troubled global financial institutions, could for the first time be tapped to help the ailing domestic economy, a report said on Monday.—INTERNET

Lebanese protesters try to storm US Embassy in Beirut

BEIRUT, 19 Jan—Lebanese demonstrators were confronted with security forces on Sunday when they tried to storm the US Embassy in Awkar east of Beirut, local New TV reported.

The security forces used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators who were gathering in protest against the Israeli offensive on Gaza, said the TV report, adding several were wounded

during the confrontation.

According to the report, the protesters chanted slogans against the US and Israel, and distributed pamphlets urging the US Ambassador Michel Sisson to leave the country “because she is not welcomed here.”

A number of demonstrations have been staged against the US Embassy to Lebanon since the Gaza fighting started on 27 December. Most of them

were called by Lebanon’s leftist and communist parties along with the leading opposition group of Hizbollah. The demonstrators blamed the US for backing Israel to be “a partner in the killing of Palestinians in Gaza.”

Leftist Lebanese parties are allies with Hizbollah-led opposition, and have a history of anti-Israeli activities according to media reports.

Xinhua



Tourists walk past at a street stall, selling a T-shirt with the picture of President-elect Barack Obama printed on in Shanghai, China, on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET



A Palestinian police officer directs traffic in the street in Gaza City, on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Ban Ki-moon visits Syria for talks on Gaza situation

DAMASCUS, 19 Jan—UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon arrived here on Sunday to hold talks with Syrian leaders over the situation in the Gaza Strip hours after Israel’s unilateral ceasefire took into effect early in the morning.

The UN chief, who just wrapped up a trip to neighbouring Lebanon, was welcomed by Syrian Foreign Ministry Walid al-Muallem at the Damascus international airport and expected to

meet with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad later. After the Damascus tour, Ban would leave here for Egypt’s Red resort of Sharm el-Sheikh to attend an international summit on Gaza crisis which would also be attended by a number of European and Arab leaders.

As Ban continued his Middle East tour in Syria, Israel confirmed on Sunday it launched an airstrike earlier in the day to hit back Gaza militants’ rockets attack despite the Israeli unilateral truce which began at 2:00 am (0000 GMT).

Xinhua

Fuel depot blaze put out in Jakarta

JAKARTA, 19 Jan—Firefighters extinguished a massive blaze at a fuel depot in the Indonesian capital Monday morning after a day-long fire burned hundreds of thousands of gallons of gasoline.

The fire sent black clouds of smoke billowing over the city at its peak, but firefighters managed to contain the conflagration to one of the six massive storage tanks at the depot.

“Only one tank went up in flames during the fire. The other six tanks are safe,” said Toharso, secretary of the state oil company Pertamina.

Pertamina lost around 2500 kiloliters (660,000 gallons) of unleaded gasoline during the fire, Toharso said.

Despite Pertamina’s statement that Jakarta had sufficient fuel reserves to last a week, Jakartans lined up at area gas stations as the tank burned Sunday. The company still has about 52,000 kiloliters on hand to serve the capital, Toharso said.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China establishes firm to produce jet engines

SHANGHAI, 19 Jan—A company was set up in Shanghai Sunday to make engines for jumbo aircraft in a move intended to help China reduce reliance on foreign suppliers.

The AVIC Commercial Aircraft Engine Co Ltd (ACAEC) will be involved in “research, design, production, sales, maintenance, service and technological consulting for jet engines and related products,” said Zhang Jian, manager of the company.

The government-owned Aviation Industry Corp of China (AVIC) holds a 40 per cent stake in ACAEC, which has registered capital of six billion yuan (877 million US dollars). The power equipment maker Shanghai Electric Group and Shanghai Guosheng Group, the municipal government’s investment arm, hold 15 per cent each.

“We invite global investors, especially private ones, to take up the remaining 30 per cent of the company,” said Tan Ruisong, deputy board chairman.

The firm is another step in the development of the commercial aviation industry after the establishment of the Commercial Aircraft Corp of China Ltd in May last year. The plan is to put aircraft with at least 150 seats into the market by 2020.—Xinhua

Vietnamese wood industry to face difficulty in 2009

HANOI, 19 Jan—A lack of import materials and export markets may stunt Vietnam’s wood processing industry in 2009, the local newspaper *Vietnam Investment Review* reported Monday.

Vietnam’s more than 2,000 wood processors and exporters would need tens of millions of cubic metres of wood by 2010 as compared with six millions of cubic metres of wood in 2008. Local sources, however, can meet only 20 per cent, said Vietnam Timber and Forestry Product Association (Vifores) Vice Chairman Nguyen Ton Quyen.

Xinhua

Indonesian forensic police officers inspect a tank at one of Jakarta’s largest fuel terminals after a massive fire on

19 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET



Arab officials warn against rising unemployment in Arab nations

KUWAIT CITY, 19 Jan — Arab officials on Sunday warned against rising unemployment in the Arab world during the Arab economic and social forum's final session which is dedicated to youth, unemployment and immigration.

Qatari Labour Minister, Sultan bin Hassan al-Dhabit al-Dossary, said at the opening of the session that unemployment has reached "high levels" in the Arab world, or 22 per cent of the actual

workforce, noting that the annual increase in joblessness was around 1.5 per cent.

Arab governments were responsible for encouraging the youth to participate in the development in the Arab countries, he said.

Al-Dossary called for creating a balance between education and needs of the labour market, appealing to businessmen to establish a bank to finance small-sized projects to be run by the

youth in order to eradicate unemployment.

The Qatari official also called for minimizing the import of foreign labour and encouraged Arab brains to return to their home countries. Meanwhile, Director General of the Arab Labour Organization, Ahmad Lukman, said that 54 per cent of the unemployed were the youth, adding more than four million people would need jobs in the next decade.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia ferry captain suspected over disaster

JAKARTA, 19 Jan — The captain of an Indonesian ferry that sank off Sulawesi island last week, leaving hundreds missing, has been named a suspect for possible negligence causing loss of life, police said on Monday.

The ferry, which had 250 passengers and 17 crew according to the manifest, was travelling from Pare-pare on the west coast of Sulawesi to Samarinda city on Indonesia's side of Borneo Island when it ran into heavy seas.

Rescue officials have found only 35 survivors, including the captain, and nine bodies more than a week after the disaster.

"We made Sabir (the captain) a suspect yesterday for negligence that caused loss of lives," said Heri Sabiansauri, a spokesman for the South Sulawesi police.

Negligence leading to a loss of life can carry a maximum jail sentence of five years, according to Indonesia's penal code. Sabir, who goes by one name, is currently in police custody. Police usually classify a person a suspect in Indonesia before prosecutors may lay formal charges. — MNA/Reuters

Egypt deports 10 more Eritreans

CAIRO, 19 Jan — Egypt deported 10 Eritreans on Sunday who had been caught trying to enter Israel illegally, sources at Cairo International Airport said, despite concerns they could face torture at home. Egypt has in the past two weeks deported 64 Eritreans arrested in similar circumstances.

The sources said police had put the Eritreans on an EgyptAir plane for Asmara accompanied by eight security guards. They added that some of the Eritreans had tried to assault Egyptian police as they were being taken into the airport.

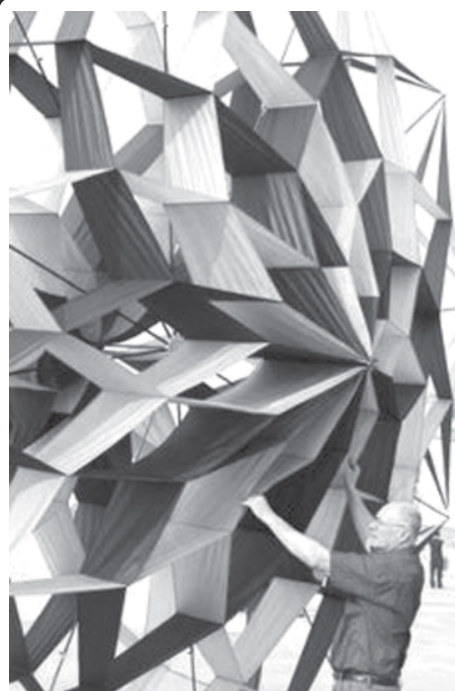
The Eritreans were caught on the Egyptian-Israeli border weeks ago while trying to slip across into the Jewish state.

Egyptian police have shot and killed 28 African migrants and Egypt has deported up to 1,200 this year alone. Many are Pentecostal Christians escaping religious persecution and others are trying to avoid military conscription, activists said.

Egypt for years tolerated tens of thousands of Africans on its territory, but its attitude hardened in 2007 after it came under Israeli pressure to stop growing numbers of Africans trying to cross into the Jewish state. — MNA/Reuters



A cable car passes above a Merrill Lynch office building in Singapore on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET



A kite-flying enthusiast lifts his kite during the inauguration ceremony of the 19th International Kite festival in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad. More than 163 kite-flying enthusiasts from 36 countries will compete in the five-day long festival.

An Arabian baboon baby smells a banana in the arms of its keeper Inkeller Judit in the Pecs Zoo, southern Hungary. The one-month-old baboon baby was abandoned by its mother after birth.

Wild boar sends hunters to emergency room

Two villagers hunting a boar became the prey when the 100-kg animal attacked them in Pingjiang county, Hunan province.

Zhu Yuxi, 45, and Li Qingan, 58, were rushed to the hospital where doctors conducted emergency surgeries. They suffered massive hemorrhage after their legs were bitten by the wild boar, which escaped.

Both are expected to recover fully.

NEWS ALBUM



Would-be Chinese bride, 107, seeks first husband

A 107-year-old Chinese woman who was afraid to marry when she was young has decided to look for her first husband and hopes to find a fellow centenarian so they will have something to talk about, a Chinese paper reported.

Wang Guiying is worried she is becoming a burden to her aging nieces and nephews since breaking her leg when she was 102 and had to stop doing chores like washing her clothes.

"I'm already 107 and I still haven't got married," the Chongqing Commercial Times quoted her saying. "What will hap-

pen if I don't hurry up and find a husband?" Born in southern Guizhou province the child of a salt merchant, Wang grew up watching her uncles and other men scold and beat their wives and often found her aunt crying in the woodshed after an attack, the paper said.

"All the married people around there lived like that. Getting married was too frightening," she said of an era when Chinese women had few rights and low social standing.

Lad pawns mother's diamond ring for 200 yuan

A 15-year-old boy in Wuhan, capital of Hubei province, pawned his mother's diamond ring for a paltry 200 yuan (\$30) so he could buy his favorite cartoon books.

The father, Wang Wei, had asked the local administration of industry and commerce to step in after the pawnshop owner refused to sell back the diamond ring. Wang doesn't allow his son to buy such books.

The administration said the deal was invalid because Wang's son is not an adult. The pawnshop finally let Wang buy back the ring for 200 yuan.



The seven-year-old blue-fronted Amazon parrot sits on the shoulder of its owner Joyce Greenslade in Devon, UK. It was possessive about its owner, and went into a rage whenever her husband went close to her. Now the neurotic parrot has been put on the bird equivalent of Prozac and started on a behavioural course to combat her jealousy.

Boost livestock farming for nation's economic growth

Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

(from page 1)

Taninthayi Division runs not only large businesses such as offshore and deep sea fisheries and agriculture such as rubber farms but also commercial-scale and small-scale private-owned fishing enterprises and livestock farms, which help boost regional economic development.

While in Kawthoung, Taninthayi Division, our media



U Toe Win Thein, Manager.

compound, we found prawn ponds and layers runs.

Conducting us round the compound, Manager U Toe Win Thein said,

species shrimps survive when they grow up. So, most of the prawn breeders here choose Peneaus species to breed. Peneaus species prawns are marketable when they are at the age of three and a half months, and Tiger species prawns are marketable when they are at the age of over four months."

He added, "We have raised layers since 2003 to distribute eggs to local people at reasonable prices. Previously, they had to buy eggs from the neighbouring country. On average, the people of Kawthoung consume

30,000 to 35,000 eggs a day. We distribute 24,000 eggs a day."

He said, "We raise 30,000 layers. We have four 4000-layer runs and three 6000-layer runs. Hens start to lay eggs 16 weeks after the heating process. The rate of their laying eggs reaches at the peak at 25th, 26th and 27th weeks. The rate starts to fall when they are at the age of 42 week."

We observed the prawn ponds and chicken runs. We saw workers categorizing the eggs in size with the use of the weighting machine and packing them for



Some sea prawns under growth.

distribution.

At a time when the government is working hard to improve the nation's economic development, national entrepreneurs should boost not only agricultural

farming but also livestock farming to contribute local food safety and export the surplus.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
14-1-2009



Two Peneaus species sea prawns at the age of one and a half months.

team from the Myanma Alin Daily dropped in Toe Tet Aung Sea Prawn Breeding Cooperative Ltd, which is located in block No OSS (26) near Thaugbyu Village, seven miles northeast of Kawthoung.

Along the way to the company we noticed rubber farms, oil palm farms, areca palm farms, and cashew nut farms. As we entered its

"We launched our sea prawn farming in 1994. We set a record of 95 tons of sea prawn in 2006-2007. We are trying to stay in business. Now, we have six 1.2-acre prawn ponds and nine two-acre prawn ponds, totaling 15 ponds. We breed Peneaus species. Its growth rate and survival rate are very good. On average, 50 % of Tiger species shrimps and 80 % of Peneaus



Eggs are categorized in size with the use of the weighing machine.

Scientists unraveling the mystery of camouflage



Octopus burryi clinging to a calcareous alga. The mottle coloration of the octopus produces effective background matching to the algae.

AMSTERDAM, 19 Jan — Biological Laboratory (MBL), has spent 35 years studying animal

camouflage, and in that time he has moved beyond awe at nature's disappearing tricks and discovered three broad classes of camouflage body patterns.

He and his colleagues detail these three pattern classes, and how they achieve several mechanisms of visual deceit, in this week's issue of Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B. The issue is entirely devoted to camouflage.

Internet

Northern fur seal pup decline: lowest birth rate since 1916



Northern fur seal pups on St. Paul Island. A temporary mark was applied to a pup (top right) by 'shearing' dark hairs off to expose lighter hair below.

JUNEAU, 19 Jan — Researchers at the National Marine Mammal Laboratory of NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center have marked another decline in northern fur seal pup births in the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea, where northern fur seals gather in the summer.

"We started seeing an over-all decline in the abundance of fur seals on the Pribilof Islands around 1998, but we have not been able to identify the factors responsible," said Dr. Doug DeMaster, center director.—Internet

Myanmar Medical Association

Obstetric and Gynaecologist

Society

8th OG Conference

(18-19 February 2009)

Yangon

Traders Hotel

Fingerlings put into Azin dam in Mudon Township

YANGON, 19 Jan — A total of 800,000 fingerlings were put into Azin dam in Mudon Township on 13 January under the fish and meat production programme of Mon State Fisheries Department for 2008-2009.

Present were Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development

Council Commander of South East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, Head of Mon State Fisheries Department U Soe Myint, Head of District Fisheries Department U Thet Oo, officials, local authorities, members of social associations and people.

Head of District Fisheries Department U

Thet Oo gave report on putting fingerlings in four dams including Azin dam and avoiding catching fish with the use of method that endanger fish production.

The commander presented sacks of fingerlings to officials of social associations and put them in the Azin dam.

MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay being welcomed by military attache of Lao People's Democratic Republic Colonel Khamsy Vongkhamsao at the reception to mark 60th Anniversary day of Lao People's Army on 19 January.—MNA

Test well sank in Maubin

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Jan — In order to meet the country's need of energy, the Ministry of Energy is making efforts to sink test wells at promising places with the use of heavy machines and with technicians.

Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy, on 17 January attended the

ceremony to sink Shwe Pin test well No 1 in Maubin region.

The deputy minister and Technician Mr Zhang Yingzh started operating the machine to sink well at auspicious time.

At the briefing hall, the deputy minister heard reports by responsible officials on preparing of the well and geographical

and geo-physical facts collected. He then instructed them to cooperate with all leveled staff for the success in work field and to study with foreign technicians new developing technology.

Shwe Pin test well will go 13000 feet in depth and will be dig out with foreign made 2J 50 D SR-1 (China).—MNA



Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay and foreign technician Mr. Zhang Yingzh start operating the machine to sink Shwe Pin Test Well No. 1 in Maubin.—MNA

ILBC recounts hiking trip

YANGON, 19 Jan — A ceremony to recount experiences of ILBC hiking and mountaineering team which went hiking to Ponganyazi snow cap in Putao of Kachin State from 27 December 2008 to 9 January 2009 was held in conjunction with dinner at International Language and Business Centre (ILBC) on

Laydaungkan Street in Tamwe township here on 18 January, attended by managing-director U Tin Maung Win, principal, teachers, members of hiking and mountaineering team, journalists and guests.

First, managing-director of ILBC U Tin Maung Win extended greetings and leader of hiking and moun-

taineering team principal U Lay Maung recounted experiences on hiking trip and answered queries raised by journalists.

The team comprising 39 members of which 21 are students led by principal of ILBC U Lay Maung reached the peak of 11860 feet high Ponganyazi snow cap at 9 am on 1 January 2009.

MNA



Principal of ILBC U Lay Maung recounts experiences on hiking trip.—MNA

8th OG Conference on 18-19 Feb

YANGON, 19 Jan — Obstetric and Gynaecologist Society under Myanmar Medical Association will organize its 8th OG Conference at Traders Hotel here on 18 and 19

February.

Obstetric and Gynaecologists are invited to participate in the conference.

MNA

Inter-State/Division Men's Football Tournament (Open) kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Jan — Footballers who will take part in the 54th Union Shield Inter-Sate/Division Men's Football Tournament (Open) were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-

Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and members of social organizations at City Hall in Mandalay yesterday.

The 54th Union Shield Inter-Sate/Division Men's Football Tournament (Open) kicked off at Ba Htoo Sports Ground in Mandalay in the evening. Before the first match of the tournament, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint accepted the shield

handed over by the previous Champion Kachin State Team.

Mandalay Division Team beat Mon State Team 3-0 during the first match. The final match of the tournament will be held at Ba Htoo Sports Ground on 9 February.

MNA

Seinbudaw and Hnetmyatnadaw to be hoisted at Uppatasanti Pagoda kept at Shwedagon Pagoda

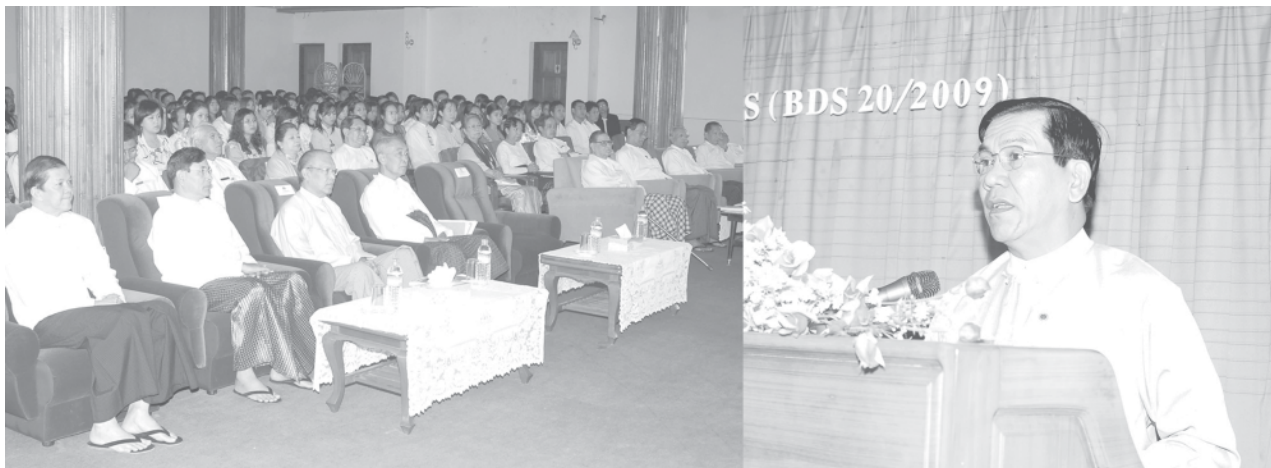
YANGON, 19 Jan—A ceremony to keep Seinbudaw and Hnetmyatnadaw to be hoisted at Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw was held at Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win

Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin.

The commander, the mayor and officials carried Seinbudaw and Hnetmyatnadaw turning round the pagoda. After the ceremony, the commander, the mayor and wellwishers donated cash.—MNA

Basic Diplomatic Skill course opens



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win speaks at Basic Diplomatic Skill Course (20/2009).—MNA

YANGON, 19 Jan—The Basic Diplomatic Skill Course (BDS-20/2009) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunzin Minyaza Hall of the ministry here today, with an address by

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win.

Also present on the occasion were officials of the departments under the ministry, retired Myanmar ambassadors, senior diplomats, professors and retired professors of the

Universities and instructors.

It comprises contemporary inter-national affairs, holding and attending of international conferences, negotiations, international law, inter-national economic

relations, international etiquette, foreign traveling, issues of women, diplomatic and official correspondence and communication skills.

A total of 180 trainees are taking the 12-week course.—MNA

Proper flow of drainage inspected

YANGON, 19 Jan—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected progress in resurfacing of six-lane along Bayintnaung Road being carried out by Engineering

Department (Roads and Bridges) of YCDC, upgrading tasks of tarring road in Bahan township and progress in carrying out tasks for proper flow of drainage both sides of Inya Myaing street today.—MNA

Cornerstone laid for new fire station in Dagon Myothit (North)

YANGON, 19 Jan – A cornerstone laying ceremony for construction of new two-storey fire station was held in Dagon Myothit (North) this morning.

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe laid the foundation.

Also present were Director-General of Fire Services Department U Myint Tun, the deputy

director-general, the chairman of Dagon Myothit (North) Township Peace and Development Council and members and officials.

Director-General U Myint Tun and the deputy director-general explained the construction of the fire station to the minister.

The minister and officials laid the foundations at the respective places and sprinkled scented water on them.—MNA

Myanmar hosts the 7th meeting of High Level Legal Experts Group

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Jan—Myanmar hosted the 7th meeting of the High Level Experts Group on the following up to the ASEAN Charter at Golden Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here this morning.

Present on the occasion were U Kyaw Hsan, Director-General of Directorate of Attorney-General, heads of delegations from ASEAN nations, president of ASEAN high level legal experts group Mr Vasin Teeravechyan of Thailand, Ms Hjh. Nor Hashima Hj. Mohd Taib of Brunei Darussalam, Mr Sok Khavan of Cambodia, Mr Rachmat Budiman of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr Kham Kheuang Bounteum of the Lao

People's Democratic Republic, Ms Noor Farida Ariffin of Malaysia, Mr Jose Eduardo Malaya of the Republic of the Philippines, Mr Jeffrey Chan of the Republic of Singapore, Mr Nguyen Xuan Thuy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, secretary of ASEAN high level legal experts group Dr Tamsak Chalermphanupap and delegation members.

President of ASEAN high level legal experts group Mr Vasin Teeravechyan of Thailand made an opening address and those present discussed on judicial matters adopted by ASEAN Charter and the meeting was stopped in the evening which will be continued tomorrow.

MNA

IBTC Open Golf Championship 24-27 Feb



YANGON, 19 Jan—The Yangon Round of IBTC Open Golf Championship, which is organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held in Yangon Golf Club (Danyinkon) from 24 to 27 February instead of 16 to 19 February.

MNA



The 7th meeting of High Level Legal Experts Group in progress.—MNA

Newly-imported locomotives and machinery to help improve rail transportation

Article: *Tin Htwe (MNA)*; Photos: *Nyo Maung (MNA)*



The rail gang car with crane imported from India.

(from page 16)
Y.M.E.C Co imported 20 2000 HP diesel locomotives from China. Of them, eight arrived here as the first batch on

17 October 2008, and 12 as the second batch, on 28 December. The Chinese-made locomotive is 11 feet and eight inches high, weighs 75 tons, holds

704.85 gallons of fuel, and can run 62.5 miles per hour at maximum.

It is equipped with the computer-aided system, with which the engine

driver gets out of order, the system shows the methods to repair the damaged part. It is designed to run not only in plains but also on hilly regions.

Of the 20 locomotives, 14 will be used in place of the old ones running between Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, between Yangon and Mandalay and between Yangon and Mawlamyine, and the remaining six, between Mandalay and Lashio.

The automatic levelling, lining & tamping machine, profile ballast regulator and rail gang car with crane imported from India will be used in constructing new railroads and upgrading and maintaining railroad sections

run 31.25 mph at maximum. It weighs 40 tons, holds 220 gallons of diesel and 200 gallons of hydraulic oil. Its value (FOB) is US\$ 1,411,740.

The 189-HP profile ballast regulator is 39.03 feet long, 8.30 feet wide, and 10.58 feet high. Its maximum speed is 31 mph. It weighs 20 tons and its value (FOB) is US\$ 594,884.83.

The 133-HP rail gang car with crane can run 37.5 mph. It is 20.30 feet long, 7.87 feet high, and 10.25 high. It has hydraulic brake system. Its value (FOB) is US\$ 138,250.

The newly-imported locomotives and machinery will scale up the de-



Indian-made profile ballast regulator.



The Chinese-made 2000 HP diesel locomotive.

velopment of the rail transportation of the nation. The 326-HP automatic levelling, lining & tamping machine is 48.88 feet long, 8.49 feet wide and 11.49 feet high. It can

driver can check the conditions of all the mechanical and electrical parts including the engine and generator. As soon as one of the parts of the loco-

of the Myanmar Railways.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
19-1-2009

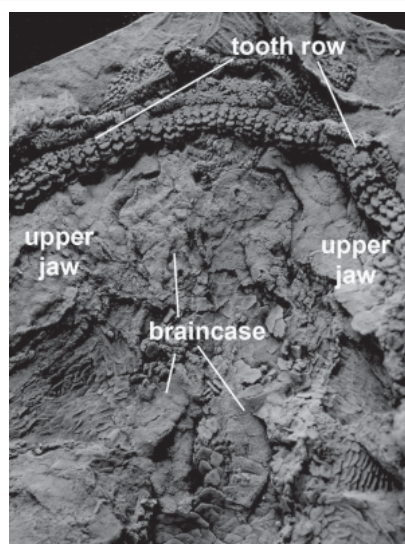
Red Cross leadership course concludes

YANGON, 19 Jan — Jointly conducted by Myanmar Red Cross Society and Mon State Red Cross Supervisory Committee, course on leadership for red cross society was concluded in Thanbyuzayat on 2 January.

A total of 60 members of red cross society from universities attended the course. U Kyaw Myint of Mon State Red Cross Society and member of the Central Committee for Myanmar Red Cross Society delivered a concluding speech.

Outstanding trainees of the course were honoured by the officials concerned at the ceremony.

MNA



Prehistoric fish provides new piece in evolution's jigsaw puzzle

STOCKHOLM, 19 Jan — In an article in the journal Nature on 14 January, Uppsala researcher Martin Brazeau describes the skull and jaws of a fish that lived about 410 million years ago. The study may give important clues to the origin of jawed vertebrates, and thus ultimately our own evolution.

Ptomacanthus anglicus was a very early jawed fish that lived in the Devonian period some 410 million years ago. It represents a type of fossil fish known as an "acanthodian" which is characterized by a somewhat shark-like appearance and sharp spines along the leading edges of all fins (except for the tail fin). This group of early jawed fishes may reveal a great deal about the origin of jawed vertebrates (a story that ultimately includes our own origins). However, their relationships to modern jawed vertebrates (and thus their evolutionary significance) are poorly understood, owing partly to the fact that we know very little about their internal head skeleton.

"To date, we have detailed data from one genus Acanthodes, which occurred very late in acanthodian history," Brazeau explains.—Internet

Official says "Erroneous" Western democracy not for China

BEIJING, 19 Jan — China must build defences against "erroneous" ideas involving Western-style democracy, a top government official said in comments published on Sunday, shooting down recent calls by dissidents for political reform.

China's ruling Communist Party has stepped up efforts to stifle dissent and protest ahead of politically sensitive anniversaries this year, and amid concerns that rising unemployment in a slowing

economy could fuel broad social unrest.

Jia Qinglin, China's fourth-most senior official, demanded officials throw their weight behind the one-party state in an essay in the Party's main ideological journal "Seeking Truth" (Qiushi), which was reproduced on major web portals on Sunday.

"Build a line of defence to resist Western two-party and multi-party systems, bicameral legislature, the separation of

powers and other kinds of erroneous ideological interferences," said Jia, who is also head of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), a largely toothless parliamentary advisory body.

"Consciously abide by the Party's political discipline and resolutely safeguard the Party's centralised unity," Jia said, calling on CPPCC members to strengthen "ideological unity".

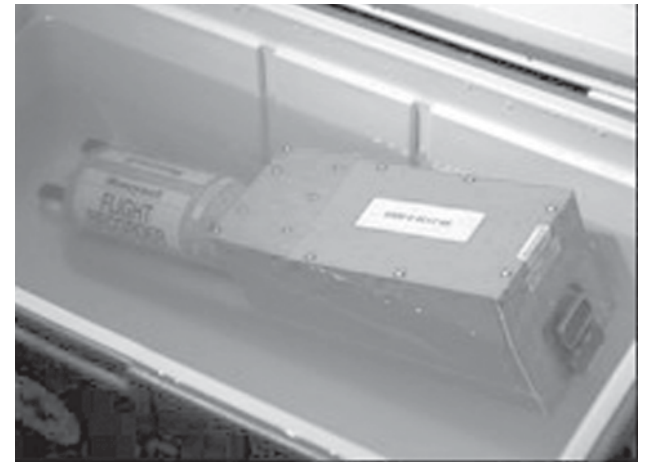
MNA/Reuters

Bird strike confirmed in US crash

NEW YORK, 19 Jan— It has been confirmed that a collision with a flock of birds caused a US airliner to lose power and ditch in a New York river just after take-off.

Flight data recorders show the engines of the US Airways Airbus A320 cut out simultaneously, National Transport Safety Board investigators say. The plane had only managed to reach a top altitude of 3,200ft (975m).

The wreckage of the plane was lifted by crane



The cockpit flight recorder was put on display for reporters.—Internet

from the icy waters on to a barge moored to a lower Manhattan seawall late on Saturday and is

now being moved to a marina for closer inspection.

Internet



Mickey, Minnie and Pluto dressed in new designed clothes perform during a dance show for celebrating the New Year of Ox at the Tokyo Disneyland in Urayasu City of Chiba Prefecture, south of Tokyo, on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Obama welcomes Israeli ceasefire in Gaza

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan— US President-elect Barack Obama welcomes Israel's ceasefire in the Gaza Strip and is committed to helping Israelis and Palestinians work toward peace, a spokesman said on Sunday.

Obama will say more on the situation in Gaza after he is inaugurated on Tuesday, spokeswoman Brooke Anderson said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters



Chinese artist Wei Chuyu (2nd R) introduces his works to Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari (1st R) at the presidential residence in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan, on 19 Jan, 2009. Zardari expressed the hope of strengthening cultural exchanges between Pakistan and China when meeting with Wei Chuyu.—INTERNET

Obama sees his race as an opportunity

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan — US President-elect Barack Obama, who avoided calling attention to race during the campaign, sees his race as an opportunity to bridge differences, *The Washington Post* reported on Monday.

Obama spoke in an interview last week about how his racial identity can unify and transform the United States, the newspaper said.

The son of a black Kenyan father and a white mother from Kansas, Obama will be inaugurated on Tuesday as the 44th US president, and the first one to be an African American.

"There is an entire generation that will grow up taking for granted that

the highest office in the land is filled by an African American," Obama said in the interview.

"I mean, that's a radical thing. It changes how black children look at themselves. It also changes how white children look at black children. And I wouldn't underestimate the force of that," Obama told *The Post*.

Beyond the historic symbolism of his inauguration, Obama hopes to use his presidency as an example of how people can bridge differences, *The Post* reported.

"What I hope to model is a way of interacting with people who aren't like you and don't agree with you that changes the temper of our politics," Obama

was quoted as saying.

"And then part of that changes how we think about moving forward on race relations. Race relations becomes a subset of a larger problem in our society, which is we have a diverse, complicated society where people have a lot of different viewpoints," Obama said.

MNA/Reuters

A taxi runs past the sludge in Baoshan District of Shanghai, east China, on 19 Jan, 2009. A stack of river channel sludge collapsed here on Monday, leaving a bazaar and shops nearby affected. No casualties were reported by press time.—INTERNET

Avalanches kill at least ten in Afghanistan

KABUL, 19 Jan — A series of avalanches have killed at least 10 people in Afghanistan and authorities were still searching for those feared missing, an official said on Sunday. The avalanches hit the southern part of the Salang Tunnel on Friday, the main highway linking southern Afghanistan with the north of the country and to central Asia, said Mohammad Rajab who is in charge of the highway.

The avalanches swept away at least 12 passenger vehicles as well as several machines used for clearing snow to keep the highway open, Rajab told *Reuters* by phone from the area. "In total, so far, we have recovered 10 dead people and rescued some 40, 11 of whom were hurt by the avalanches. Work is going on to rescue those who are feared trapped," he said. — MNA/Reuters



Donation Programme for Donors in Nargis Release Area

On 2,3 May 2008, Cyclone Nargis ravaged the delta region causing severe detriment and loss of lives of the farmers and their families. Even though, those areas reached a certain level of rescue and rehabilitation by the State Government, all concerned departments, general public, INGOs & NGOs.

We would like to say "THANK YOU VERY MUCH" to the State Government, INGOs, NGOs; all domestic and international donor for donating (of **BIO SUPREME Bio -Fertilizer**) tens of thousands bags (up to 50000bags) to the Cyclone Nargis affected areas with consortium efforts.

We, **SUPREME GROUP OF COMPANIES** had also donated 3 thousand bags of **BIO SUPREME Bio-fertilizers** to those affected areas with the courtesy of the State Government, INGOs and NGOs' cooperative efforts.

We have sent to our Bio-fertilizers donors, such as INGOs & NGOs regarding for the results of using **BIO SUPREME** in the Cyclone Nargis areas. There, we made video records, interview records and our company's activities on how our technicians went to those areas, giving right application methods, other technical supports training to the farmers directly.

So, for anyone who did not receive the results of donations and our movements records, you may inquire at **SUPREME GROUP OF COMPANIES** at any time.



Fertilizer Office

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Drive with care

Putin says likes Obama, but urges caution

DRESDEN (GERMANY), 19 Jan—Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin praised incoming US President Barack Obama as "sincere and open" on Saturday but said Moscow needed to see how he turned out in practice. Relations between Washington and Moscow have hit a post-Cold War low amid rows over missile defence, NATO enlargement, Kosovo independence and Russia's war

with Georgia.

Putin said Russia was ready to cooperate with the United States on a range of international issues, though he cautioned against excessive optimism over the new US leader. "Obama looks like a sincere and open man and this of course attracts people," Putin said at an overnight meeting with editors of leading German newspapers during a visit to Dresden.

But he also said, "I am deeply convinced that the deepest disappointments come from excessive hopes. We need to see what happens in practice," Putin led Russia as president in 2000-08 and developed a strong personal relationship with outgoing US President George W Bush, which survived frequent disagreements over policy.

MNA/Reuters

US says not closing its military base in Kyrgyzstan

DUSHANBE, 19 Jan—The United States has no plans to close its military airbase in Kyrgyzstan, the US regional military chief said on Saturday.

A source close to Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev's office told Reuters on 13 January that the Central Asian state was preparing a statement announcing the closure of the base, a key US staging post for its operations in nearby Afghanistan.

US Central Command chief General David Petraeus, visiting Tajikistan as part of a regional tour that also takes him to Kyrgyzstan this weekend, said the United

States had no plans to stop using the airbase.

"We look forward to discussing the future of the base there and we certainly have no plans to change anything frankly," he told reporters. Washington set up the base, now home to more than 1,000 military personnel, in ex-Soviet Kyrgyzstan in 2001 after the start of the US-led military campaign in Afghanistan.

Russia, which also operates a military airbase in Kyrgyzstan, saw the arrival of US forces as a Washington attempt to squeeze Russian influence in the ex-Soviet region. Russian media have separately reported that

Bakiyev would announce the closure of the US base ahead of his planned visit to Moscow next month. The Kyrgyz Government has not officially commented on the matter.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan, Turkish Co sign agreement for wind energy generation

ISLAMABAD, 19 Jan—Pakistan and a Turkish company Saturday signed an agreement for wind energy generation, the *News Network International* news agency reported.

The Federal Ministry for Water and Power of Pakistan Raja Pervez Ashraf and chief executive of the Turkish company signed the energy deal in Islamabad, said the report.

Raja Pervez Ashraf said on the occasion that Pakistan and Turkey enjoyed historic and deep-rooted relation. He expressed the confidence that the agreement would pave the way for more foreign and private investment in the power sector.

The Turkish company expressed confidence over the resilience of Pakistan's economy and future.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEIYO SPIRIT VOY NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEIYO SPIRIT VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: BRIGHT SHIPPING CO., LTD**
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MALLIKA NAREE VOY NO (073A)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALLIKA NAREE VOY NO (073A) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: SK SHIPPING CO., LTD**
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (124)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (124) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



China warns of bird flu risk over Lunar New Year

BEIJING, 19 Jan— There is a risk of more bird flu cases in China as the country gears up for the Lunar New Year holiday at the end of the month, the Agricultural Ministry said, after the government reported two new human cases of

the disease.

After not reporting a single human infection in almost a year, China has now confirmed three cases of the H5N1 virus in less than two weeks.

“As the Spring Festival approaches, there are frequent

movements of poultry products and the risk rises of virus outbreaks and transmission,” the Agriculture Ministry said in a statement on its website.

The Spring Festival, or Lunar New Year holiday, starts next Monday and is accompanied by a mass movement of people back to their home provinces for lavish celebratory meals.

MNA/Reuters

Yachts depart Singapore on the fourth leg (Singapore-Qingdao) of the 2008-2009 Volvo Ocean Race, on 18 Jan, 2009. The yachts are (L-R) Delta Lloyd, Puma and Ericsson 3.

INTERNET

FBI joins search for missing Florida money manager

TALLAHASSEE, 19 Jan — A Florida investment manager who disappeared with what could be hundreds of millions of dollars of other people’s money remained missing on Sunday, as the investigation into his dealings widened.

The FBI and the US Securities and Exchange Commission have joined the search and investigation for Arthur Nadel, president of Scoop Management Inc, whose reported disappearance Wednesday was followed two days later by complaints from investors who said that funds invested by and through Nadel had disappeared along with him.

Sarasota police said the investigation began on

Friday and federal agencies were informed after they received complaints from at least five possible victims, many of whom appeared to have lost more than 500,000 US dollars. “What has allegedly gone on also includes federal

and other regulatory violations,” Captain William Spitler, spokesman for the Sarasota Police Department, said. “That’s why it was important for us to get all the agencies together.”

MNA/Reuters

US Airways jet’s engines lost power simultaneously

NEW YORK, 19 Jan— The US Airways jet that survived a crash-landing Thursday in New York had lost power in both engines simultaneously before ditching safely on the Hudson River, flight data revealed Sunday.

The Airbus A320 had

reached a maximum altitude of 3,200 feet (about 975 metres) before both engines cut out, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) official Kitty Higgins told a Press conference. Investigators also said cockpit recordings featuring transmissions between the crew and air traffic control was consistent with the timeline of events based on interviews with the flight crew and other

collected data. Higgins said recordings showed the captain had mentioned birds to the co-pilot about 90 seconds after takeoff.

“One second later, the cockpit voice recorder recorded the sound of thumps and rapid decrease of engine sounds. The captain acknowledges that both engines have lost power and he takes control of the aircraft,” Higgins said.

MNA/Xinhua



Shoppers crowd a supermarket in Hanoi, Vietnam. Squeezed by the global slowdown, consumers and companies in China and other countries that celebrate the Lunar New Year, which begins this year on 26 Jan, are slashing their spending on traditionally lavish gifts and banquets.

INTERNET

Fog in western China grounds flights, strands thousands

BEIJING, 19 Jan — Thick fog blanketing much of western China has delayed dozens of flights and left more than 16,000 passengers stranded at airports ahead of the Chinese Lunar New Year holiday, Xinhua news agency reported on Sunday.

At least 10,000 passengers were stranded at

Shuangliu International Airport in Chengdu, capital of China’s southwestern Sichuan province, after it closed for more than five hours on Sunday, Xinhua said. Some 121 incoming and outgoing flights were delayed and four cancelled, the agency said, quoting the airport authority. Airport spokesman Lu Junming told Xinhua most of the 485 flights scheduled for Sunday would be delayed for at least four hours.

MNA/Reuters

Summers says does not see jobless topping 10%

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan — One of President-elect Barack Obama’s leading economic advisers said on Sunday he does not see unemployment topping 10 per cent and wants financial rescue funds to be used to boost the flow of credit to the economy.

Incoming National Economic Council director Lawrence Summers said on CBS’s “Face the Nation” that the 350 billion US dollars in financial bailout money spent so far had

not produced all the results policymakers had hoped for. “Anyone who looks at it has got to be disappointed when they look at what has happened to lending,” Summers said.

“Got to think the results have been unsatisfactory. Got to think we need a more proactive approach that’s got its focus on what is really the financial centre of this problem, which is maintaining an adequate flow of credit,” he said.

MNA/Reuters



Residents travel on a trailer truck through a flooded street in a business district in east Jakarta on 19 Jan, 2009. Overnight torrential rain triggered flooding in many parts of Indonesia’s capital on Monday.—INTERNET

SPORTS

West Ham striker Bellamy 'set to sign for Man City'

LONDON, 19 Jan—Wales striker Craig Bellamy is set to leave West Ham for big-spenders Manchester City, the London club confirmed on Monday.

The Hammers have accepted City's bid of around 14 million pounds (15 million euros) for the 29-year-old and Bellamy was expected to rapidly complete a medical to clinch the deal.

The much-travelled Bellamy had demanded a transfer to Tottenham on Friday after rejecting the offer of a new contract, but his club were unwill-



West Ham striker Craig Bellamy. INTERNET

ing to sell to their London rivals.

He was left out of the Hammers squad which defeated Fulham 3-1 on Sunday, with manager Gianfranco Zola stating the player was "not in the right frame of mind".

City have already had three separate bids for Bellamy turned down, and it was thought he would have preferred to join Spurs.

But with the Hammers refusing to do business with their city rivals, it appears Bellamy has accepted the lure of cash-rich Manchester. City boss Mark Hughes knows Bellamy well, both with Wales and at Blackburn, and has never had a problem with the player's fiery temperament.

It is not expected there will be any problem with the player's medical, and personal terms should be a formality too, given the amount of money City have at their disposal tanks to their Abu Dhabi ownership.—INTERNET

Redknapp set to strengthen wasteful Tottenham

LONDON, 19 Jan—Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp outlined his need for new players in the January transfer window after his team missed a hatful of chances in a 1-1 draw against his old club Portsmouth.

Darren Bent was the worst offender, heading wide a golden opportunity to win Sunday's match where the point Spurs gained was at least good enough to take them off the bottom of the English Premier League table and out of the relegation zone, albeit on goal difference.

West Ham striker Craig Bellamy is near the top of Redknapp's shopping list, but the Tottenham boss is pessimistic about the Wales forward's chances of making a move across London.

"I've not given up, but it's going to be difficult," Redknapp said. "I think Manchester City are in for him and if they are then you've got no chance because they can just outbid you."

The renowned transfer wheeler-dealer has attracted criticism this week from both Sunderland boss Ricky Sbragia, over his pursuit of forward Kenwyne Jones, and Middlesbrough manager Gareth Southgate, regarding his attempt to lure winger Stewart Downing to White Hart Lane.

England international Downing had handed in a transfer request but Redknapp now accepts he is likely to stay at the north-east club.—INTERNET

Johnson gets 2-shot win at Sony Open



Zach Johnson holds the winning trophy after winning the Sony Open golf tournament at the Waialae Country Club, in Honolulu.—INTERNET

ship, despite a back injury that caused Toms to withdraw the next day.

"I expect him to make every putt and I expect him to hit every fairway because quite frankly, he typically does that," Johnson said.

Only this time, Johnson did it even better. He made it three straight years with a PGA Tour victory — and the season is only two weeks old — by closing with a 5-under 65 on Sunday at Waialae for a two-shot victory over Toms and late-charging Adam Scott.—INTERNET

HONOLULU, 19 Jan—Zach Johnson's three-shot lead was gone in four holes, and he headed to the back nine at the Sony Open in a tie for the lead with David Toms knowing exactly what to expect.

Johnson got his first close look at Toms when they were partners in the Presidents Cup at Royal Montreal, when Toms chipped in for a pivotal birdie that led to a four-somes victory. A year later, Toms beat him in the first round of the Accenture Match Play Championship, despite a back injury

that caused Toms to withdraw the next day.

"I expect him to make every putt and I expect him to hit every fairway because quite frankly, he typically does that," Johnson said.

Only this time, Johnson did it even better. He made it three straight years with a PGA Tour victory — and the season is only two weeks old — by closing with a 5-under 65 on Sunday at Waialae for a two-shot victory over Toms and late-charging Adam Scott.—INTERNET

Jankovic scorches through Aussie Open tennis, Ana struggles

MELBOURNE, 19 Jan—Top seed Jelena Jankovic of Serbia underscored her Australian Open credentials with an easy first round win Monday but fifth seeded compatriot Ana Ivanovic struggled for form.

Searing conditions during the first day's play at Melbourne Park failed to force any upsets on the women's side of the draw, as Russians Dinara Safina (seeded three) and Vera Zvonareva (seven) also



Serbian top seed Jelena Jankovic underscored her Australian Open credentials with an easy first round win Monday but fifth seeded compatriot Ana Ivanovic struggled for form.—INTERNET

advanced comfortably.

Jankovic's main problem in disposing of Austria's Yvonne Meusburger 6-1, 6-3 was the heat from the court's rubberised surface scalding her feet, forcing her to rest her soles on ice during changeovers.

The 23-year-old consequently wrapped up the match as quickly as possible in 70 minutes, declaring herself "fit and ready to play" as she chases a maiden Grand Slam title to go with her ranking as the world's best player.

"It's nice to get going and get off to a good start," she said, crediting a grueling off season training schedule in Mexico with strengthening her once injury-prone body.—INTERNET

Real Madrid ride luck to close gap on Spanish League leaders Barcelona

MADRID, 19 Jan—Real Madrid came from a goal down to cut Barcelona's lead at the top to 12 points with a hard-fought 3-1 home victory over basement boys Osasuna on Sunday and end a week of boardroom infighting on a high.

In contrast to Barcelona's dazzling 5-0 thrashing of Deportivo La Coruna on Saturday, Real were fortunate to survive two strong penalty claims as they laboured to a win that lifts them into second above Sevilla on goal difference.

"We scored three goals and got three points which is what we wanted," said Real boss Juande Ramos.

"Barcelona are playing magnificent football and that is why they are getting good results.

"We are not playing so well but are getting good results and wins give you



Real Madrid's Dutch midfielder Arjen Robben celebrates his goal against Osasuna during their Liga football match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. Real Madrid won 3-1.—INTERNET

confidence and the ability to play better."

Osasuna went ahead through Iranian international Javad Nekounam's 19th-minute header but gifted Real an equaliser early in the second half with goalkeeper Roberto allowing Sergio Ramos's tame shot to creep in.—INTERNET

Champ Djokovic through as star is born at Australian Open



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns the ball during his game against Andrea Stoppini of Italy on the first day of play of the Australian Open in Melbourne.—INTERNET

MELBOURNE, 19 Jan—Defending champion Novak Djokovic stormed into the Australian Open second round but a record-breaking 16-year-old stole the show on the first day of competition Monday.

Djokovic dispatched Andrea Stoppini (ITA) 6-2, 6-3, 7-5 at Melbourne Park, joining three-time semi-finalist Andy Roddick in the next stage with triple champion Roger Federer playing later.

"There is pressure. But it didn't affect me today, I'm still trying to find the rhythm and I'm slowly getting there," Djokovic said.

"It is a different feeling, but I look at it as a challenge."

But early attention focused on Australia's Bernard Tomic, who became the youngest male winner here aged just 16 years and 90 days.

INTERNET

President says Real not planning more January signings

MADRID, 19 Jan—Real Madrid are unlikely to buy any more players in the January transfer period, new club president Vicente Boluda was quoted as saying on Sunday. Boluda took charge of the Primera Liga champions on Friday when Ramon Calderon was forced to resign after the *Marca* newspaper published allegations of irregularities at the club's general assembly last month.

In his first interview as president, Boluda told *Marca* that Real would probably not buy further players this month following the signings of Klaas Jan Huntelaar and Lassana Diarra.

"In this world, you can never rule it out completely but the squad is complete and I don't think so," the 53-year-old businessman said. "We have a fairly complete and balanced side and we are going to remain like this until the end." —INTERNET

Acknowledgment

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to friends who gave helpful hands from the beginning to the end to the funeral of late **Maung Win Kyaw Phyo (27 years)** who passed away on 1-1-2009 (Thursday); relatives and friends from far and near who showed their deepest sympathy personally or by phones; organizations and persons who sent memorial wreath; and those who were worthy of all thanks.
Bereaved family

**Capt Mar Mar Wai (Retd)
Aged (52) years**

Beloved wife of Dr Aung Zeya Myint, Capt Mar Mar Wai (Retd) passed away peacefully at 4:15 am on 12th January 2009 at Mount Alvernia Hospital (Singapore). Funeral service was held on 16th Jan 2009 in Yangon (Myanmar).
Bereaved family

Heartfelt acknowledgement

We, bereaved family of late Daw Mar Mar Wai, who passed away peacefully at Mount Alvernia Hospital on 12th January 2009 in Singapore, thankfully acknowledge to CEO & Executive Team, Doctors, Nurses and staff of Mount Alvernia Hospital and Assisi Hospice, so also to all relatives and friends from far and near, who sincerely gave their fullest support, showed their prayers, deepest sympathy and condolences, personally, via email, fax, 1 phone, during her illness, in the process of carrying body from Singapore to Yangon and the funeral service held on 16th January 2009 in Yangon.
Dr Aung Zeya Myint and bereaved family



The new Lexus RX450h, a SUV of Toyota Motor Corp's luxury brand, is displayed at the Lexus RX Museum in Tokyo on 19 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

**MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(20.1.2009) (Tuesday)**

Transmission Times

Local Transmission - (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Abroad Transmission (Europe) - (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
Abroad Transmission (North America) - (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

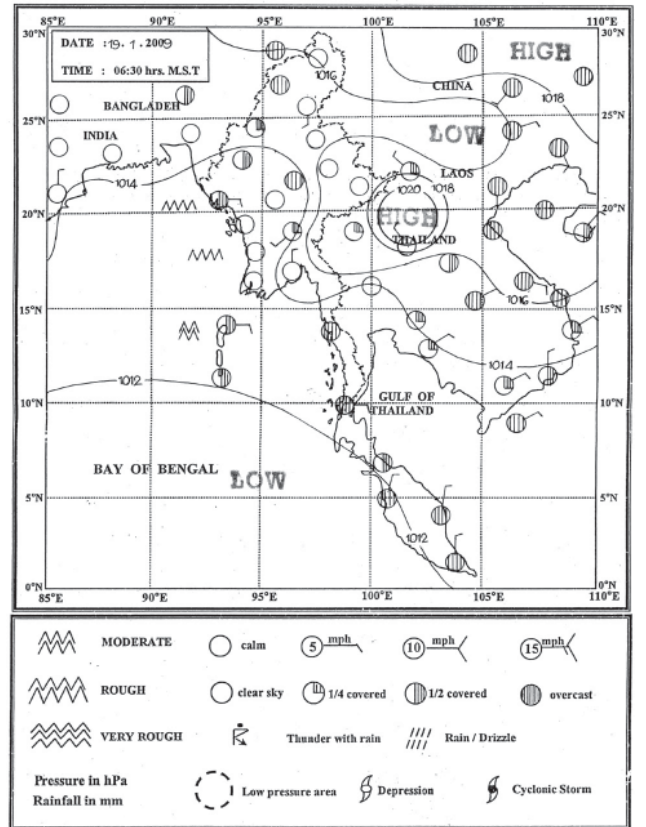
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * The Alaung Daw Kathapa National Park
- * Mularsheedi we love!
- * Hydropower Light Radiating from Danyawady Land
- * Reed Mats
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Abroad Transmissions

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Myanma Toddy Palm: A Source of Rural Income
- * Let's Talk About Lahu Nationals
- * The Unique Pindaya Shan Paper
- * Kyaing Tong: Town in the beautiful Valley
- * Field Trip to Tagaung
- * Hukaung Valley Rattan Survey (Part-IV)
- * Reed Handbag
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * The Alaung Daw Kathapa National Park
- * Mularsheedi we Love!
- * Hydropower Light Radiating from Danyawady Land
- * Mother O'pearl Mosaic Painting
- * The Wonderful Peikchin Ravine
- * Citrus Products of Shwe Kyin
- * Cruise Along Yangon River ... Feel Enchanting Scenes with Pleasure
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 19 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (5°C) below January average temperatures in Mon State, (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Chin and Kayin States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (0°C), Haka (1°C) and Lashio, Namhsam and Pinlaung (3°C).

Maximum temperature on 18-1-2009 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 19-1-2009 was 56°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 19-1-2009 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 18-1-2009 was (9.0) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 19-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from East at (09:30) hours MST on 19-1-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 20th January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 20-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-1-2009: Generally fair weather.



Tuesday, 20 January
View on today

- 7:00 am 1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am 4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 7:50 am 5. Nice and sweet song

- 8:05 am 6. “ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာသန်စင်သော အစာ” (ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ဖွင့်၊ ဝမ်းပုံကြီး၊ ဟိမ်းမြီး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည့်စိုးထွန်း)
- 8:15 am 7. Song of yesteryear
- 8:30 am 8. International news
- 8:45 am 9. Musical programme
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm 2. Dance of national races
- 4:20 pm 3. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 4:30 pm 4. “နင်းကြည့်စမ်းပါ”

- (မင်းအုပ်စိုး၊ ညီဘွား၊ ခင်စိုးပိုင်)
- (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 4:40 pm 5. Musical programme
- 4:50 pm 6. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)
- 5:05 pm 7. Songs to uphold national spirit
- 5:15 pm 8. နားဝင်ပီယံသူ့လက်သံ
- 5:25 pm 9. Musical programme
- 5:40 pm 10. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် စာပေဗိမာန် စာမူဆုရှင်များ၏ ပုံရိပ်များနှင့် ရင်တွင်းစကား (အပိုင်း-၂)

- 6:00 pm 11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm 12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm 13. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:50 pm 14. ဆိုလိုက်ကြစို့
- 7:15 pm 15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ” (အပိုင်း-၅)
- 8:00 pm 16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မြင့်မြတ်နုလုံးသားပိုင်ရှင်” (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

Newly-imported locomotives and machinery to help improve rail transportation

Article: *Tin Htwe (MNA)*; Photos: *Nyo Maung (MNA)*



The automatic levelling, lining & tamping machine imported from India.

The government is exerting itself in various sectors in building a modern developed nation. As part of the goal, it is constructing a network of railroads with the aim of further consolidating national unity through progress of rail transportation.

In that case, the government is producing concrete sleepers on an extensive scale and importing new locomotives and machinery for maintenance of railroads in order to run trains equipped with modern engines on the new railroads and ensure sustainable service of railroad sections.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council, the Myanma Railways imported 96 diesel locomotives: 55 from the People's Republic of China, and the rest, from the Republic of India.

(See page10)

Is human 'imperfection' such a bad thing?

MIDDLESBROUGH, 19 Jan — Imagine a world of 'human perfection' where disabled people are a distant memory, edited out by medical enhancement and economic cost-benefit analysis: a world where thanks to generic selection and economic crises disabled people find themselves expendable.

Is such a world desirable?

Not necessarily so, says artist and computer animator Simon McKeown from the University of Teesside's School of Computing,

who is challenging many of the notions of so-called human 'imperfection' in a high-tech film-based exhibition called Motion Disabled.

Produced with colleagues in the West Midlands, it uses a number of 'disabled actors' from around the country and opens at the Wolverhampton Art Gallery on 24 January, 2009 with a run of four months.

"Motion Disabled is an animated digital sculpture," says Simon McKeown, Teesside University's Reader in Com-

puter Animation and one of Britain's most experienced 3D animators, with 20 years' industry experience in TV and computer games production.

"We've used state-of-the-art Hollywood technology more usually associated with super heroes like Spiderman to capture ordinary disabled people in their human diversity.—Internet

MCPA to give talk on software development

YANGON, 19 Jan— A talk on "Introduction to Application Architecture Guide" will be held with the assistance of Myanmar Professionals Education Centre (MPEC) Co Ltd at Room 205 of the main building of Myanmar Infotech in Hline Township on 24 January. The talk will be held for development of information and

communication technology under the aegis of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association.

U Zaw Moe Tun, executive of MCPA and director of Myanmar Information Technology (MIT) Pte Ltd will give talks on software development. He has 14-year experience on such field.

MPEC, the main

sponsor of the talk, is a training school conducting IT-related professional certification courses and diplomas in software engineering course.

Software developers and other interested persons can take part in it. For more information, contact the MCPA, Room 4, building 4, Ph: 652276.—MNA

New genetic model predicts plant flowering in different environments

SCIENCE DAILY, 19 Jan — It has been known for some time that plants respond to environmental cues that guide their flowering. Chief among these signals are light, temperature and vernalization, when flowering is promoted by prolonged exposure to cold temperatures.

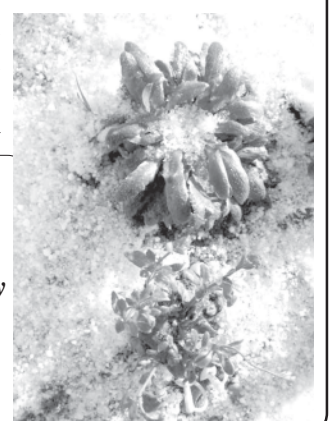
In some plants, scientists have identified particular genes that deal with each of these environmental signals.

But they haven't fully grasped how plants integrate these signals in nature. For example, when day length and temperature are combined in different ways, plants out-

doors may not respond the same way as plants in the lab.

Internet

To Flower or Not to Flower? *Arabidopsis thaliana* genotypes planted on the same day in September display dramatically different flowering times.



Dr Simon McKeown, Reader in Computer Animation at Teesside University, Middlesbrough, England.